

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Akinori IWAKAWA, et al.

Serial No. 09/995,815

Group Art Unit: 3622

Confirmation No. 9734

Filed: November 29, 2001

Examiner: ALVAREZ, RAQUEL

For: INTRODUCTION SYSTEM

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed January 30, 2007, and having a period for response set to expire on March 30, 2007.

The subject Office Action, on the cover page, specifies a period for response of three-months, presumably from the mailing date thereof of January 30, 2007 and, thus, setting a response period expiring April 30, 2007. On the other hand, the Office Summary specifies that A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 2 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE - - and thus, March 30, 2007.

This Response, being filed March 27, 2007, is timely under either standard.

The Action imposes a "Requirement for Information Under 37 CFR §1.105", that "information" more particularly comprising a full translation of each of Japanese Patents 2000-322488 and 2000-020530 of the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filed herein on February 22, 2002 (as cited in Item 2 at page 2). Item 5 of the Requirement, appearing at page 3 of the Action, specifies that:

...Where the applicant does not have or cannot readily obtain an item of required information, a statement that the item is unknown or cannot be readily obtained will be accepted as a complete response to the requirement for that item.

Applicants, accordingly, assert that, they "do not have and...cannot readily obtain....," the Item(s) requested - - and which is understood to constitute a complete Response to the Requirement.

On the other hand, in the interest of expediting prosecution and for the convenience of the Examiner, Japanese counsel of the Applicants have supplied machine translations of the Japanese patent publications, as are provided by the Japan Patent Office and are readily available to the public from the JPO web site. It is noted that the JPO does not provide translations of words in the drawings of Japanese patent publications and such translations are not available and cannot be readily obtained by the Japanese counsel.

If Applicants' undersigned U.S. counsel can be of any further assistance to the Examiner in this matter, please contact the undersigned US counsel.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: March 27, 2007

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